

# THE CHRONICLE.

R. H. YANCEY, Editor.

Clarksville, Tenn., May 8, 1884.

TERMS: \$2.00 IN ADVANCE.

## THE CALL FOR THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

To the Democracy of Tennessee:  
By direction of the State Democratic Executive Committee, you are hereby notified to assemble in convention, at the capital in Nashville, on Wednesday, June 18, 1884, at 12 o'clock m., for the following purpose, namely:

To nominate a candidate for Governor; to nominate three candidates for Railroad Commissioners; to appoint delegates (and alternates) to the National Democratic Convention to be held at Chicago, Ill., July 8, 1884, for the State at large, and two for each Congressional district; and to select one for each Congressional district, and to transact such other business as may be necessary.

To this end, the Chairman of the County Conventions throughout the State are hereby notified to convene their respective committees, and call conventions of the Democrats of their counties, irrespective of past differences, to appoint delegates to the said convention to be held on the 18th day of June.

J. F. HILLMAN, Sec'y.  
Nashville, April 18, 1884.

## THE BLAIR BILL.

The Democrat of last week devoted nearly two columns of its editorial space to a stricture on the CHRONICLE's advocacy of the Blair educational bill.

We are always open to conviction and will have no hesitancy in adopting a new creed when the error of our old faith has been pointed out to us. But sad to say, the learned desecration of our contemporary on constitutional law, and its patriotic defense of republican institutions, has failed to convert us to its way of thinking. We still hanker after the flesh pots of Egypt in the shape of those \$70,000,000 which the Blair bill appropriates for public education, and still record the CHRONICLE's strongly in favor of the passage of such a measure.

When the idea of appropriating the surplus in the National treasury to public education was first promulgated, the Democrat opposed it on the ground that it would humiliate the South to accept such aid, and later, advanced the idea that it would create mixed schools. Since the discussion of the act in the United States Senate, our contemporary has abandoned such positions, and now bases its objections to the measure on the high ground of unconstitutionality. It fears that the appropriation of money by Congress for educational purposes is a step towards monarchy or a strong central government. We combat the former positions of our contemporary and think its present attitude equally as assailable. There might be ground for such apprehension as the Democrat expresses if the bill provided for taking public education from the control of the states and creating a national system of public schools, or even if the act provided for a perpetuity, and the appropriations were to be continued. But nothing of the kind is intended in the Blair bill. There is a surplus of \$150,000,000 in the National treasury, and it is proposed to turn half of that over to the states to be expended by them for educational purposes. The Federal Government assumes no control in the matter further than in the distribution of the fund among the states. The question merely mooted is whether or not Congress has a right to appropriate money for the purpose. A large majority of the Senate was of the opinion that it has; only eleven Senators having voted against the passage of the bill.

The Democrat seeks to make an argument of its estimate of the character and ability of the Senators who supported the measure as compared to those who opposed it. We never heard of anything so essentially weak. Whether Lamar or Hampton are the mental equals of Beck and Harris is a matter of speculation and entirely irrelevant to the issue. Of one thing we are certain—they are all good Democrats, and the fact of their occupying opposite positions proves that the bill is in no sense a partisan measure. The Democrat says, of its knowledge, the CHRONICLE is the only one of the numerous "weekly papers throughout the South" favoring the bill, that denies its unconstitutionality. We are constrained to believe that our contemporary has misconstrued those papers, for such a position would be extremely idiotic, and we are not disposed to credit such a wholesale indictment of the Southern press. To insist on the passage of an avowedly unconstitutional measure would be to abjure congressmen to violate their oaths of office—but the folly of such a position needs no portrayal.

The opponents of this bill are the first people on record to suppose that the education of the masses is a tendency towards monarchy. Popular education has generally been esteemed the greatest bulwark of popular liberty, and so it has always proven. General education is in fact essential to the life of a republican government. Where every man is educated, the rights of the Nation, he should be able to exercise that right intelligently. It is the ignorant masses who submit to monarchical rule in Europe. The Russian Nihilist are nearly all students, and if the Slavonic masses could have for a few years the benefit of such a measure as the Blair educational bill, the Romanoffs would tremble on their throne and the Ukase would be supplanted by legislative enactment.

The Democrat thinks the following paragraph from the CHRONICLE very inconsistent:

Such statesmen are tinged with Bourbonism, they grope in the moonlight of the past and hanker after the exploded doctrine of State sovereignty. The Chronicle would have all its might any tendency to centralization or an encroachment on State's rights by the Federal Government, we are in favor of anything of the kind in the educational bill.

If our contemporary believes that the several States that compose the American Union are still sovereign, in their relation to the general Government, it will have to seek company for its ideas with the unconstructed Bob Toombs of Georgia. We don't know of any one else who still holds to such a theory. There are many people in this particular section who once claimed that the States were the superior powers and only delegated to the Federal Government such authority as it was allowed to exercise. There were many who entertained such opinions, but all such ideas oozed out at Appomattox, and like the spray on the fountain, they have gone and forever. Time spent in repining over their destruction is time wasted. But we still cling to the rights clearly delegated to the States under the Constitution and the CHRONICLE will always oppose the centralizing tendency of the Republican party that would abolish them. Senator Harris (to whom the above alludes) we believe, is so fully imbued with the ideas of the past, when he was a very active factor in Southern politics, that he is inclined to give a tinge of his hue to matters that come under his consideration now.

The Blair Educational bill bridges the State Right. It provides for a much needed relief that is due the South from the National Government. The federal bill, H. R. 1021, passed by the House, and which was vetoed by the President, was a bill to strengthen the Blair educational bill. It is an evidence of unwise statesmanship that there should be any surplus in the National treasury, but since such a surplus exists, there is no fairer way of returning a portion of it to the people than in the manner proposed in this bill.

We asserted in a recent issue of the CHRONICLE that all the papers published in the 6th congressional district stood on the Blair bill, except two—the Nashville World and the Clarksville Democrat. The latter calls on us to give the names of those papers, and as we are always willing to oblige our contemporary with any information in which it stands in need, we hasten to comply with its request. The papers are: The Nashville American, the Nashville Banner, the Springfield Record, The Ashland City Reporter, the Clarksville Chronicle, the Clarksville Tobacco Leaf, the Waverly Times-Journal, and the Dover Courier. We are positive as to the politics of all these papers except the one last mentioned. If we have misrepresented any of them we will be glad to make the correction.

The Democrat further said that this fact didn't effect it any way, and added something in its usual strain about "Sky-blues and Blue Democrats." We didn't expect it to make any difference with you, dear neighbor. The CHRONICLE would stand on the Ohio plank if every other paper in the State was "agin' it," and we are willing to credit you with a like steadfastness of principle. It is the fashion now to count noses on political matters, and the CHRONICLE was simply indulging in a little play of that kind. We didn't urge the statement for an argumentative effect.

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## THE PAPERS OF THE SIXTH DISTRICT.

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The Democrat in discussing the educational bill goes out of its way to say that the CHRONICLE "opposed the consideration of the tariff by the present Congress." If the Democrat can show us what good the tariff agitation by the present Congress has done, or is likely to do, the contrary of the Democrat's statement, we will repeat having opposed it and confess our error. The CHRONICLE is, and always has been, for tariff reduction, but we didn't see the use in splitting the party by raising the tariff issue on the eve of a presidential election, when there was no possible chance to accomplish any reduction. We favored the abolition of the tobacco tax, and that could have been done by the present Congress if all the Democrats had favored it. Such a measure would have curtailed the surplus that will go on accumulating if nothing is done to reduce taxation.

The Republicans of East Tennessee will be glad to prove, by a solid vote, that they are ready to trample over old prejudices, and inaugurate a day of peace. Long ago they cast aside all feelings of resentment toward those of their opponents who stood where Frank Reid did, in the ranks to be shot at. When a brave Confederate private, who followed his leaders, suffered and endured, is put forward for honors, the Union soldier can readily feel strong sympathy for him.

But they do object, and will object, to the election of Confederate Generals. They forgive the men who were falsely led, but they object to the exclusive honors bestowed upon those who were the false leaders.—*Chattanooga Commercial.*

Softly, brother; softly. Didn't your party once support General George B. Maney, of Confederate fame for Governor of Tennessee? And when he was beaten for that office, didn't a Republican president give him a foreign mission? Surely our Republican contemporary spoke without thinking. When your party throws Mahone, Longstreet and others of that kind overboard, you can better afford to make such assertions as the above, but until that is the case take our advice and go slow.

We have heard that the Memphis Scimitar flew all out of joint, got green-eyed and yowled because we suggested that the Hon. David Park Hadden would make a good Governor. The Scimitar is not among our exchanges, and we know only by report what it did. It was boss Hadden's proud disposition of the Turner case that convinced us of his executive ability, and it was probably the same circumstance that influenced the Scimitar's views.

SINCE the Republicans have nominated an ex-Confederate for Governor, how would it do for the Democrats to put out for the same position Speaker Ledgerwood, who was a Federal soldier during the late war? East Tennessee claims the Governor anyway.

## REVENUE AND PROTECTION.

Education and Protection.

National aid is demanded. Compulsory laws needed, and more executive authority required in our Tennessee school code. Blair's educational bill is the olive branch offered to the South: a silver lining appearing on the hoary clouds of illiteracy hanging over the South. North Carolina and Tennessee are the Banner States in ratio of illiteracy. Illiteracy is the nightmare of progress and advancement. The vampire that fangs while it sucks the vital blood from all social prosperity. Increased taxation for educational purposes will promote the general welfare. Knowledge, learning and virtue are essential to the preservation of republican institutions and will restore our equal rights under the law. Class laws have been written upon our National code mountain high favoring the few at the expense of the millions of toilers who produce wealth.

Enough of the public domain which should have been held sacred to actual settlers has been by class laws given away to railway corporations, to furnish every freeman a homestead of 640 acres of land, the public credit strengthening act recommended by Ulysses Grant enhanced the value of bonds \$500,000,000. This class law was enacted in the interest of bankers and bond holders, and not for the general welfare. Such acts as above enumerated have created in the last fourteen years five hundred millionaires. Class laws and great millionaires have been the downfall of all republics, and it is said history repeats itself.

The diffusion of the opportunities and advantages of education among the masses by increased taxation, compulsory laws, and more executive authority are the crying needs of our school code. The law, with these slight amendments, if enforced according to the spirit and letter of the law, would effect grand results; it would enable the children of our sons to pay the debt entailed from a generation that will soon pass away. It will enable our grand children by skilled labor to strain every nerve to utilize the fabulous dormant wealth of one of the poorest States in all the thirty-eight for a State without honor or credit is poor indeed.

This great paramount and long neglected issue is arousing the masses to action everywhere on both hemispheres. The French chambers in the Christmas holidays of 1882, voted 40 millions of pounds for educational purposes, and it is said that during the spring and summer months of last year 40,000 school houses were erected in France. Just the other day the greatest deliberative body of men on terra firma voted on Blair's Educational Bill, 35 for education, 11 for illiteracy, out of 76 senators. Oh, for the spirit of 76—paired, or asleep, or silent, or astraddle of the fence. I don't propose to be wiser than Harris or Beck, and likely Vance, who voted against this bill. If the Democratic House defeats Blair's Educational bill, and if the Democracy in their Chicago platform endorse their action of July 1884, the Democracy of the United States will be the laughing stock of the world.

A divided democracy will suffer defeat in 1884, most devoutly to be wished by Republicans. We need a change of administration if only to review the balance sheet of taxes paid into, and disbursements paid out of, the National treasury during the reign of Republican rule for the last 21 years. More than ten thousand millions of internal taxes and import duties have been collected from the people, and as much more has been garnered from the consumers of American manufactured goods and wares by exclusive war tariff duties, and robbing the treasury of revenue and filling the vaults of corporate millionaires. A change of civil service reform is needed, the old war tariff needs revision. But we must let on the internal revenue laws it is the intrusion of Pennsylvania to the far North and abolition of internal taxes. If her 60 delegates go for revenue only what will become of the bonds? Why perpetuate them—the bankers don't care if you do. It is an English idea, a National blessing; one-sixteenth of the English population till the soil; the rest are absorbed in manufacturing industries, or commercial carriers upon the high seas. Four billions of National debt owned by her liege lord, manor born, and our American syndicates are adopting the English idea. On the virgin soil of a country yet in embryo of development, a tariff for revenue only is an English diplomacy any simpleton knows, if he can reason from cause and effect, that if we adopt free trade sentiments and recind internal taxes you will bankrupt the treasury, and funded interest on the bonds will perpetuate National banks, and National banks own National bonds and twenty-two hundred bankers will continue to finance, regulate prices by inflation, or contraction of the value of currency. The word only simply means spoliation. It was used in 1880 in the interest of class corporations. Senator Voorhees in his great Exposition speech at Atlanta, Ga., quoted Andrew Jackson's letter to Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, in 1823, saying, "Our manufacturing industries need the fostering of the general government, that they were the grand effort to develop Southern interest said 'that foolish adverb only lost Hancock's election.' The bosses, like the leaves of the Upas tree poisoned the minds of 5,000 operatives in Indiana, telling them that a reduction of duties would reduce wages, and the boys on account of the 'breast question,' voted for Garfield. Starvation will make a man drink his own blood. Like a green bay tree, our infant industries are springing up all over the South and West, and they need the fostering care of the general government. We need three hundred millions of revenue annually for incidental expenses. We need incidental protection; this problem can only be solved by wise statesmanship. May

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some talismanic influence harmonize Democracy on these two pivotal questions.

Our press and Senators are divided in Tennessee; division of the Democratic party means death in 1884—unless we will reach the helm of State. The irrepressible conflict party having accomplished the purpose for which it was created, will become non est factum, and most devoutly wished by all good Greenbackers, Sky Blue Democrats, etc.

In union there is strength, in division weakness. Compromise and expediency should be the watchwords of every loyal friend of social moral and civil reform. If we could agree with Beck, Harris, and likely Vance, that Blair's educational bill encroached upon State rights, expediency, policy and the general welfare ought to waive that objection. Blair's bill is a silver lining appearing on the hoary clouds of illiteracy hanging over the South. North Carolina and Tennessee are the Banner States in ratio of illiteracy. Illiteracy is the nightmare of progress and advancement. The vampire that fangs while it sucks the vital blood from all social prosperity. Increased taxation for educational purposes will promote the general welfare. Knowledge, learning and virtue are essential to the preservation of republican institutions and will restore our equal rights under the law. Class laws have been written upon our National code mountain high favoring the few at the expense of the millions of toilers who produce wealth.

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The charters of the Knoxville Woolen Mills, and the Johnson City Foundry and Machine Shop, were registered by the Secretary of State last week.

Tribune and Sun: The Jackson Woolen Mills building near the Ice Factory is ready for the machinery of the mills. The building is large and after the best modern style. We will give a full description when the mill is ready for operation.

Athens Post: We have a specimen of gold bearing quartz at the printing-office, the richest ever seen in this country. It has been tested, and will yield four thousand dollars to the ton. Where it came from, or how it got into our possession, will, perhaps, be told hereafter.

Murfreesboro News: The creamery is still talked of and everybody seems to be in the notion of having one. There is no doubt of its being a paying institution to our farmers. We understand that the one at Nashville sells all its butter at fifty cents per pound. Besides this, the milk will make cheese worth from 10 to 15 cents per pound.

The company previously mentioned as working up a woolen mill project in Knoxville, has been incorporated as the Knoxville Woolen Mills; capital \$100,000, all subscribed. Incorporators are C. J. McClung, C. M. McGhee, E. J. Sanford, J. D. Cowan, and R. P. Gettys. Work on buildings will probably commence about May 1st. It is probable that the Hiwassee Woolen Mills, capital \$50,000, will be consolidated with the new company, making two mills under one management.

Murfreesboro News: Mr. T. W. Cox, who lives in the 11th district on the Shelbyville pike, was re-shingling his dwelling house the other day, and found under the roof a hen's nest containing six eggs. Upon investigation it is ascertained that all entrance to the place had been closed since the house was shingled in 1838. Jack Fletcher, colored, did the work in 1838, and superintended the re-shingling. The date of the first shingling is also remembered by Esq. Fletcher. So there is no doubt but that these eggs are 46 years old. Mr. Cox presented one to the News, which will be kept amongst our curiosities.

Tribune and Sun: Those most interested in the enterprise, deem the company to erect and operate a hub, spoke and handle factory in this city, as practically organized. Col. Henry Mr. J. M. McGhee, S. D. Hays, Esq., and Mr. W. A. Caldwell, are among the stockholders residing in Jackson and they are men of recognized judgment and enterprise. The other stockholders are from Owensboro Ky., and they are practical men who have the credit of success. There seems very little doubt but that the enterprise will soon be in operation, a suitable building, the old Champion Mills, near the M. & O., depot having already been secured.

Somerville Reporter: A little son of Mr. Jno. J. Whittaker, living a few miles east of town, came very near meeting with a fatal accident on last Wednesday. The little youngster was playing in his father's barn, tumbling on the hay; his mother hearing him cry out, went to see what was the matter. She found him lying on the floor, and telling him to get up found that he could not. He was pinned to the floor by a hay fork. In turning a summersault he had fallen on the sharp instrument, one of the prongs striking him in the back of the neck, and the side just under the scalp, came out over his eye. It was a fearful accident and seems almost a miracle that it did not prove fatal. The boy is doing well at present.

A Razor Serape. We learn that a negro man named George Henderson, who has been in the employ of Mr. W. S. Adams, living at "Pincheon," Todd county, Ky., made a deadly assault on a son of Mr. Adams with a razor, and cut his face, cutting him dangerously, if not fatally.

From what we can learn of the affair, the facts, in substance, are as follows: Charles Adams, the young man assaulted, had some rough words, and perhaps blows, with the negro during the day over some work they were engaged in, but the negro seemed to get in a good humor, and Adams soon forgot the matter. The negro went into Mr. Adams' store that night and called for a drink. While Charles Adams was waiting on him, and had his back turned, the negro caught Adams by the collar, and with a razor cut his throat from ear to ear, and also cutting several gashes in his breast and side. Wm. Adams, a younger brother of Charles', hearing the noise, ran in, when Henderson drew a pistol and fired at him four times, none of them taking effect.

It is said that Henderson is subject to "crazy spells," and some time ago killed a neighbor. He was waiting on him, and had his back turned, the negro caught Adams by the collar, and with a razor cut his throat from ear to ear, and also cutting several gashes in his breast and side. Wm. Adams, a younger brother of Charles', hearing the noise, ran in, when Henderson drew a pistol and fired at him four times, none of them taking effect.

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## OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

The lower branch of Congress is making a determined effort to work, and nightly sessions are held in order to expedite the tariff debate. The Democratic Representatives are on the point of calling a caucus to take into consideration the present status of business, and to devise some plan to push matters along for the remainder of the session. Old members, speaking of the tardiness of business, say they think only such measures as are admitted to be necessary to the proper administration of government, stand much show of passage.

The leaders in the tariff discussion contemplate closing the general debate on Tuesday, May the sixth. They propose devoting Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week, and Tuesday of next week to the consideration of the measure. Mr. Kasson, of Illinois will make the closing speech on the Republican side, and he expects to make the motion to strike out the enacting clause of the bill. A Representative from Maryland, who supported Mr. Randall for the Speakership, and has agreed with him on the tariff question, said to the other day that the House was going to pass the Morrion bill as sure as fate. "With amendments," inquired I. "They will pass it pure and simple," was the reply. There have been more changes of opinion on this question than most people think.

Among the notable free trade speeches of the week was that of Congressman Wood of Indiana, who explained the Democratic doctrine to be, that duties upon imports should be levied to raise revenue sufficient to support the Government and pay its just debts. This kind of tariff, he urged, made sufficient revenue, the object of the law, and protection to home industry the incident. The Republican doctrine he said, was that a protective tariff makes protection to home industries from foreign competition the object of the law, and sufficient revenue the incident. Quoting from the President's message the clause "The question still presses what legislation is necessary to relieve the people of unnecessary taxes," he said these taxes existed to such an extent as to call for a special reference to Congress by the President. The orator continued that the great industries of this country must get out of the notion that the Government stimulus is of any lasting benefit. Like any other stimulant, it made for a little time a brilliant light, than left a desolation. The protective system he claimed had made labor an auction block, around which monopolists gathered bidding in the chained, slave, buying him and his vote at the same time, and counting, for profit sake, while the country arms implore the mercy of providence for him and his in this land of overflowing plenty. He illustrated what he called the abandoned wickedness of the protective system in several ways, calling it class legislation to favor one class over all others. He appealed to the farmers to unite for their own interest, saying in the near future stronger laws would be enacted to satisfy the greed of the protective classes, that would yoke them down like the Hebrew children, while their appeals for fairness and justice would be scoffed at mercilessly. Mr. Woods said if revenue reform drives old Democrats out of the party, be it so. They ought not remain in the ranks and stab its vital principle to death under the cover of Democracy.

The Senate hopes to dispose of the Pleuro-Pneumonia bill to-day. The last assault upon the measure was made by Senator Jones of Fla., who says in his several Constitutional objections.

The Woman Suffrage question has assumed four phases in Congress. From Committee there comes a report made by the minority which is in favor of extending the ballot to the fair sex. Another report from the majority is strongly opposed to the proposition. Representative Dornsheimer reports that it is probable the interests of society